(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) Presumably the Hon'ble Member has asked for the information in respect of Nationalised and Rural Banks. According to the information furnished by the UCO Bank, the Convenor of State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) for the State of Himachal Pradesh, the details of District-wise, bank-wise and year-wise loans granted by banks to the rural poor educated/ uneducated, skilled/unskilled unemployed youths under various self employment schemes such as Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) and Employment Generation Programme of KVIC in Himachal Pradesh during the last three years *i.e.* 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02 are indicated in the Annexure-I. [*See* Appendix 196 Annexure No. 9] However, the category-wise information as asked for by the Hon'ble Member is not maintained.

(b) The details of criteria fixed for granting of loans under self-employment schemes is indicated in Annexure-II. [*See* Appendix 196 Annexure No. 10]

(c) and (d) The scheme-wise details of applications pending with the banks operating in Himachal Pradesh is indicated in Annexure-III. [*See* Appendix 196 Annexure No. 11] Generally the poor people are not facing any difficulties in getting loans from banks. Whenever any complaints are received, appropriate action is taken to redress such grievances.

Investigation of non-existent import

691. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, 15,000 cases of non-existent import which have cheated Government for several crores of rupees have been sent by RBI to Enforcement Directorate for investigation;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of the companies whose transactions exceeded Rs. 1 crore; and

(c) what action the Enforcement Directorate has taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Between May, 2001 and December, 2001, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) reported 35,426 cases to the Enforcement Directorate where remittances in foreign exchange had been effected but proof of import of related goods had not been furnished by the importers. These cases pertained to import transactions carried out between 1985 and March 2000. While reporting these cases, the RBI, however, did not furnish detailed comments on the findings of its own inquiries into each such case.

(b) Investigations were intiated by the Enforcement Directorate against all importers reported by the RBI. As a result, Show Cause Notices were issued to 5390 importers. The remaining cases were closed because, on investigation, the importers submitted proof of import of the goods. Out of 5390 Show Cause Notices, there were 682 Notices in respect of cases of imports in which the amount involved exceeded Rs. 1 crore. However, the effort involved in the compilation of company-wise information in such a large number of cases as referred to in the question is not commensurate with the result intended.

(c) Notices have been issued to the importers to show cause as to why adjudication proceedings should not be held in terms of the Adjudication Proceedings and Appeal Rules under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA). Further action will depend on production of evidence by the notices in the course of adjudication proceedings and examination of such evidence by the Adjudicating Authorities concerned.

Circulation of fake currency

†692. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact circulation of fake currency has been increasing in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government have the information that it is being printed in Bangladesh;

(c) if so, whether Government are contemplating to take any concrete steps to check the same; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.